

THE BELDING BANNER-NEWS

THIRTIETH YEAR, NO. 9.

BELDING, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 24, 1918.

THREE CENTS THE COPY.

RURAL EXPRESS ROUTE MAY BE ESTABLISHED HERE

WOULD GREATLY HELP IN RELIEVING CONGESTED CONDITION OF FREIGHT AND EXPRESS SHIPMENTS.

There is a strong possibility of a rural express route being established between this city and Grand Rapids in the very immediate near future, if plans which are now being made carry out as scheduled. The installation of this proposed service would reduce in a great measure the matter of freight and express which ship from here to Grand Rapids, or from Grand Rapids to here in the morning for shipment to Lowell, Grand Rapids, or at any farm or other point on the way.

The business men of this city have given Mr. McLean good assurance of patronizing the line if he should go ahead with the plan. The route would follow the highway from here to Lowell, and from there to Grand Rapids, taking a load of freight from here in the morning for shipment to Lowell, Grand Rapids, or at any farm or other point on the way.

Such a Rural Motor Express line would have the hearty endorsement of all commissions or government departments who have anything to do with the problems of transportation and also the farmers and business men, manufacturers and others who would receive a direct benefit from the operation of the line.

MIRIAM LADIES WERE ROYAL ENTERTAINERS

The ladies of St. Joseph's Catholic parish were the royal ladies of St. Mary's parish, Miriam, Sunday afternoon in answer to the invitation which had been extended and accepted. About 50 of the local ladies went out and played games, visited and renewed old acquaintances, and spent a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. A fine refreshment spread was served and while it was being served, the ladies of St. Mary's parish, still there was a great plenty and everyone enjoyed it.

The assemblage broke up late in the afternoon and the local ladies, one and all, pronounced the Miriam sisters 100 per cent over the top as entertainers. The Miriam ladies will soon be given a return invitation.

CHARTER COMMISSION RECOMMEND CITY MANAGER PLAN

The board of commissioners elected last April have been looking over a great many charters from various cities, at their Tuesday night meeting voted unanimously to arrange the revision of the city's charter, to permit of running the city's business and affairs under the commission form of government, with a city manager at the head. The charter revision commissioners are meeting in the city hall every Wednesday night and would be glad to have people bring up well meant criticisms, suggestions or objections at the meetings. The change from the present system to a city manager plan will, if put into effect, be a great one and much thought should be given both for and against it.

Photographs of Navy Heroes Wanted. The navy department is collecting photographs of enlisted men who lose their lives in the war that their memory may be perpetuated. Secretary Daniels asks relatives or others having such photographs to lend them to the navy that copies may be made for the navy's records. Originals will be returned to the owners as fast as copies can be made.

A photograph of each man is to be forwarded by the navy department to the training station where he began his career. At each of such stations a memorial gallery of honor or a hero's corner is to be established so that for all time the face of the man of the navy who has made the supreme sacrifice may be honored by the youth of the future sent to the station for training.

All pictures, loaned or contributed should be securely wrapped for mailing after they have been marked with the name, branch of service and training station the young man entered after enlistment. They should be addressed to the Recruiting Division, Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Care will be taken to return safely the photograph to the sender, when desired, together with one of the copies made of it.

Ira Webster left this afternoon for Petoskey, where he goes each year to get relief from the attacks of hay fever which afflict him.

Fred M. Sauer, of the Fox River Butter Co. returned this afternoon from a business trip to Chicago.

Helps in Winning War. Walter Deming, one of the teachers in the city schools during the past year, is putting in his vacation in a pleasant, profitable and healthful way by working among the farmers in this vicinity and thus doing his part of winning the war by raising and saving the crops of 1918.

STORM TAKES LIFE FIRES FARM BUILDINGS

The large barn belonging to Joe Shindorf, a farmer south of the city, was struck by lightning yesterday afternoon and burned to the ground, together with its contents, its capacity in hay, a hayloader, mower and other articles. Harnesses, a Ford car, stock and the rest were saved. As we go to press we learn that a child living in Easton township was killed by a bolt of lightning and also that the Easton church was struck and destroyed by fire which followed the lightning.

Open Air Union Meetings. July 23—Rev. J. Fred Iulig, speaker; Rev. P. R. Norton, chairman. August 4—Rev. W. A. Biss, speaker; Don Cook, chairman. August 11—Rev. P. R. Norton, speaker; Rev. W. A. Biss, chairman. August 18—Church of Christ. August 25—Congregational church. Orlo Morse is treasurer of the Union association.

NEWS OF VICTORY GAVE CAUSE FOR BIG DEMONSTRATION

CROWD OF 2,000 THROGGED MAIN STREET IN ANSWER TO RINGING OF BAPTIST BELL.

Just about the time when the late stragglers on Main street were leaving for home last Thursday night and the folks who ordinarily went home early and were tucked in bed at a reasonably early hour, the news of a great American victory flashed into the city from overseas.

Manager Jessie Pressly of the Citizens Telephone Co., was perhaps responsible for the whole affair in that she kept at Rev. W. A. Biss of the Baptist church over the phone until Mr. Biss promised to ring over and ring the bell in the Baptist church. The ringing of the bell, of course, attracted immediate attention, for as a general rule, church bells do not ring in this city at 10 o'clock at night. The girls in the central office were kept busy passing out the news of a great American victory to people who called the office for information.

As a natural result many a person who had been asleep for the night got up, dressed rather hurriedly and beat it down town. At first there were only a few people on the streets but as the ringing of the church bell continued more people flocked to Main street where as the crowd grew, horns, drums, auto horns and other noise producing instruments added to the music and kept attracting more people all the time until a conservative estimate placed the number of people on the street at something like 2,000.

A number of girls and others headed by Lloyd Underwood as leader, entered the community singing at the Belding bank corner singing "Over There" and a number of other patriotic songs. The band boys had been summoned and began playing. This was about 11 o'clock and, of course, the band music called more people to the city.

A number of girls carrying a flag for a tray passed through the crowd and caught \$33 in money which people threw into the tray, the money taken up being for the benefit of the local Red Cross. Everyone gave freely and mixing in with the merry crowd, enjoyed themselves to the limit.

Postmaster Bricker got busy and formed the crowd into line and an impromptu parade was given, the line of march beginning at the Belding bank corner and extending east to the Belrock then back again. Just after the crowd began marching, Albert Stanton dashed up to the head of the column with a large American flag and the crowd went wild with enthusiasm and Old Glory thrilled the soul of every person who saw it.

Earl Seeley, son of Mrs. Mae Seeley, a printer of Ionia, offered to do a bit in the getting out of a small special edition of the Banner-News and within a short time Earl Wright, linotype operator, Chas. G. Bailey, foreman, Ed. L. Smith, of the Herald Publishing Co. with George H. Engemann assisting the editor in preparing copy, were all busy on the sheet. Our statements, as given out in the mid-night extra edition were as they came into this city over the wire and while apparently exaggerated, helped to make a big story for a small paper and the crowd that the crowd would have been disappointed with anything less in this special. The money received from the sale of this special issue went to the local Red Cross fund and amounted to \$16.84, making practically \$50 which the local organization received as a result of the blow.

Whistles blew for a long time and it soon became evident to farmers living out of hearing of smaller noises that there was something going on and many farmers got up close to the mid-night hour and drove to town.

The danger lights hitched to the automobile and drawn through the streets by John Andrews, Jack Sager and others were special features as were also the shooting and colored lights from the top of the Jensen & Wheeler store. Andrews, Sager and others also routed out Alfred Moore and got him to bring his truck down and on this they placed a high top and the kaiser by stuffing out an old suit and Wilhelm Hohenzollern of Potsdam was publicly and cheerfully hanged in effigy.

The demonstration kept things lively until long after 1 o'clock when the lights were turned out and the majority of the people wended their way home in the dark, tired and short on sleep, but glad to have taken part in the big demonstration celebrating the first big victory of the Yankee forces over the Hun.

The Longest Day of the Year



LOCAL THEATER GETS EARLY USE OF BIG WAR FILM

"PERSHING'S CRUSADERS" TO BE SHOWN AT EMPRESS THEATER JULY 31—ACTUAL PICTURES OF THE BIG WAR.

In "Pershing's Crusaders", the big official war film feature which is to be exhibited at the Empress theater on Wednesday, July 31, afternoon and evening, excellent ideas of just what our boys are doing across the seas are conveyed. Every soldier has told of the trenches in letters home, but few of them can describe them with any degree of certainty so that those over here can get a concrete idea of them. For those who love the thrill, too, there is a plenty in the "Crusaders." One trench filled with Americans on guard and on sniping duty, is pictured but a few hundred yards from the trenches of the Hun. While the very picture was being taken the heavy guns of the enemy were trained upon these trenches and were spitting their death dealers all the time. Secretary Baker and General Pershing reviewing the big army we have overseas form another remarkable picture for those at home. Airships galore welcome the general and his escort, and American fliers in Europe are shown, not as a myth but as the real thing.

"Pershing's Crusaders" is an official film, taken by the movie men in the Signal corps of the U. S. army and carefully printed in Washington for the public of this country to see in order that everybody may know exactly what is going on at the front. In Michigan these pictures are shown under the auspices of the Michigan War Preparedness Board and the profits accruing going to the board's fund for the relief of the dependents of those Michigan men now in the army and navy.

Popular Young People Wed. The home of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Ravell of Ravell's Mill, was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Thursday evening at 6 o'clock when their daughter, Miss Sarah, was united in marriage to Mr. Hubert Holmes. Rev. R. V. Birdsall of Orleans pronounced the ceremony and besides many congratulations the bride and groom were made the recipients of a number of fine wedding gifts.

Sixteen covers were laid at the wedding supper which was a delicious one. Out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Sessions of Carson City and Miss Mary Ann Ravell of Mt. Pleasant. Showers of rice followed Mr. and Mrs. Holmes as they boarded the train for Chicago, Milwaukee and other points. After the honeymoon trip of a week they will go to Elsie to reside where Mr. Holmes has his headquarters for buying grain and beans.

Both the bride and groom have a large circle of friends whose best wishes for a long, successful and happy life, follow them.

Marine Corps Notes. Cumberland, Md., July 20.—Benjamin L. Martin, Jr., of the U. S. Marine corps, and his brother, Edward V. Martin, water tender, both of the U. S. S. Arkansas, traveled on the ocean aboard the same ship for nine months neither knowing that the other was aboard.

The boys met recently when they were leaving the ship at the same time to go on a furlough. The brothers had not seen each other for nine years, prior to boarding the Arkansas—one as a Marine and one as a sailor.

PLEASE BRING IT BACK Will the party who has the large American flag belonging to this office and which was used in the impromptu parade last Thursday night, please bring it back? The flag was loaned to Mr. Jay Thompson to carry in the parade and should have been brought back to the office.

SAMMIES WRITE AMERICA'S MOST INTERESTING STORIES

EVERYONE IS GLAD TO READ LETTERS WHICH OUR ARMY AND NAVY BOYS WRITE.

Beyond a doubt no short story writer of today holds so prominent a place in the hearts and minds of the people as do the writers of the khaki and the blue—the boys who dressed in the uniforms of our army and our navy are always in the forefront, ready to do their part in the winning of the great war and the safeguarding of liberty and democracy. No matter whether the writer is known personally to the reader of the letters or not, there is an interesting something about the letters which hold one's attention from start to finish.

Our first two letters this week are from Chas. Cowles, to his mother, Mrs. Spencer Sowles. Then follows a card from his brother, Earl, another son of Mrs. Cowles, telling of his safe arrival overseas.

Somewhere in France, May 12, 1918. Dear Mother: Today being Mother's day I am going to write a few lines to you to let you know that I am thinking of you every day. I am well and feeling fine and hope this will find all the same.

We are having fine weather here now and plenty of rain. The trees and grass and wild flowers are certainly beautiful here and I always thought France was a far different country than I find although I haven't seen much of the interior yet. Everything seems to be so old fashioned and everybody seems to be so friendly and kind and I suppose that we seem as strange to these people as they do to us. We are going to get some blue envelopes and then I can write to all the folks and mail the letters all in the one envelope but until then we are only allowed to write two letters a week, so I wish that you would tell the folks how it is. We are getting plenty to eat and have good sleeping quarters so there isn't anything to worry over. It seems a certainty that the war can't last much longer and Mother, if you haven't received my insurance policy I wish that you would let me know in your next letter and I will look into it. We were out for a hike this morning and I was wishing that I might send some of those beautiful wild flowers to you for Decoration day but I am miles away and can only send you my love. I have often wondered why some other mothers cannot be more like my own and think that if they were this would be a better world. I hope that Pa is gaining well him for me to cheer up, that his boys will soon be back home again. We are drilling every day and expect to be starting for the front before long. Our gunners are doing fine work on the new French 75 M. M. S. and so far we lead the regiment for speed, although Battery C has the most points for accuracy but I think we will compete with any of them in due time. I have been attending school to learn all the mechanism about these guns; they are much more simple than those we had at Douglas, Arizona and their mechanism and workmanship is truly wonderful.

Now, Mother, don't blame Earl for volunteering for overseas service; the kid told me when he visited me at Camp Merritt that he was anxious to go. He felt it his duty to go just as I did, not because we loved you and Pa the less but just to do our bit to win the war.

Belding Grange. The regular meeting of Belding Grange will be Saturday evening. We hope for a good attendance. Program: Song, roll call, "Auto anecdotes"; discussion, "Could not the farmer who works out part of the year get more for his time if spent on the farm?" led by Ernest Chickering; song, Misses Nummer; reading, Mrs. Clarence Chickering; selection, Miss Brown; closing song, Grange.

Seining Long Lake. As we go to press we get a phone call telling us that the state men have just arrived at Long Lake for the purpose of netting bluegill and other worthless, obnoxious and destructive fish from the lake. The work is being carried on all this week and will be interesting to see.

SEE REAL SERVICE IN A REAL LIVE ORGANIZATION

JOIN THE NAVY, YOUNG MEN—IT WILL BE A GOOD STEP FOR YOU AND YOU WILL BE HELPING UNCLE SAM.

The navy is making safe the road to France. The soldiers of America journey to the western front protected along the way by battleship and destroyer. Join the navy and help keep clear the path to the lines where the allies are battling for you.

The navy is wreaking vengeance upon the U-boat, the last work in Hun savagery. If you want to avenge those who fell victims to the Teuton "frightfulness," join the navy and help smash the submarine.

If you want to serve your country and its cause—if you want to strike at Germany through its undersea boats—if you want to see real action—volunteer in the navy.

The navy offers you clean quarters and wholesome food, excellent training, an education, an opportunity to travel on the high seas. The life is clean, the exercise builds you up, the fresh air and the healthy work make you a real man.

If you want to live in the open—join the navy.

The navy affords opportunity for rapid advance, for good wages. There are all sorts of athletic games for you—football, baseball, basketball, swimming, rowing, sailing. You learn to box, to fence and to wrestle.

If you want to be an all around man, join the navy.

If you want to live a healthy life—if you want a real chance for promotion—if you want exercise in the best and cleanest of sports—volunteer in the navy.

Call at one of the places named below, bringing birth certificate, certificate of citizenship, and release from draft board. Then volunteer in the navy.

Main navy recruiting station, 161 Griswold street, Detroit. Sub-stations are as follows: Saginaw, Flint, Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Jackson, Benton Harbor, Monroe, Cheboygan, Alpena, Traverse City, Hillsdale, Cadillac, Muskegon, Mt. Pleasant, Port Huron, Cassopolis, Manistee, Bay City, Pontiac, Adrian, West Branch.

Got His Foot Smashed. Freeman Lowden was one of the happy crowd of celebrators Thursday night when the large numbers of people came down town and were making a lot of fuss about the reported big American victory and Freeman was so hilarious and enthusiastic in his celebrating that he failed to notice the heavy express truck loaded with and drawn by a big number of young ladies who had forgotten staid conventionalities in meeting people and when they met Freeman they met him so that his left foot was under the heavy wheel and was crushed between that and the pavement. The foot pained him severely and it was necessary for him to go to a physician to have it attended to.

Scrubby Is Located. A card received from our old side-wheeler, Fred A. Haynes, at Camp Custer, says that he wants his Banner-News sent to the following address: Pte. Fred A. Haynes, 30th Co., 8th Bn., 160th Depot Brig., Barracks No. 933, Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan. The reason we give this address is because "Scrubby" has a lot of friends here who want to know it so they can write.

PLAYGROUND OPENING TO BE HELD TUESDAY

The recreation playground will be opened on Tuesday morning, July 30 at 10 o'clock on the high school grounds. Miss Eva Duthie, a member of the staff of E. C. Linderman of M. A. C. will be in charge of the work and will be assisted by Miss Blanche Glass, Miss Edna Biss, Miss Helen Pressly, Misses Helen and Hazel Cota and Miss Iris McElroy, all of whom have volunteered to help.

Miss Duthie comes highly recommended and every mother should see that her child attends the doings at the playground regularly. Not only will various plays be taught but matters of an educational nature will be taken up and taught the children. The proposition has taken very well at Hastings and other places where it is being tried out in this state.

Mrs. Sarah Bane Dead. Mrs. Sarah Bane, aged 78 years, mother of Mrs. Floyd Hale, died at Ionia yesterday. The remains were brought here and will be buried tomorrow in River Ridge cemetery.

FORMER HOSPITAL SUPERINTENDENT IS NOW IN FRANCE

MISS JEAN CLARK, RED CROSS NURSE OF THIS CITY, WITH UNIT "Q", WRITES HOME.

Miss Jean M. Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Clark of West May street, who went over seas for Red Cross nurse work and who was formerly superintendent of the Belding hospital, has written the following letter to her parents. Since writing this letter which was written in England the hospital unit to which Miss Clark is attached, has reached France. Dear Folks at Home:

I have just finished afternoon tea—rather English I'm getting—there is nothing else to do we are still not working.

Ruth and I are trying to see the sights about here of which there are few of importance although everything is different than our way of doing.

We visited Chester the other day. This contains an old Roman village surrounded by a high stone wall with watch towers every little way along. One bears an inscription, tells that a King Charles stood there at a date which I have of course forgotten and watched his army defeated even on the Moor—another the Cromwell held some nobilities' daughters there as hostages.

There is a magnificent old cathedral inside the wall but I couldn't ever describe it only I feel mighty small not knowing more of its history. I should have understood things inside much better.

In one of the old buildings now used as a shop there is the remains of an old Roman bath, a Turkish bath was heated by a fire being built in the basement and the heat passing up through hollow stone columns to the room above. Then in the same basement is a large stone bath with steps leading down. This has a spring in the bottom and there has been water in the pool ever since the Roman days.

The famous old River Dee runs along outside the wall and I saw the old mill it tells of in the "Miller of the Dee."

The queer little old shop, an Inn are still there with names as "The Ring-a-Bell," "The Black Cat," "The Sign of the Kettle" and so on.

We are not going on duty at the camp hospital I told you of, there was a mistake in the orders and our unit is to go to France.

I think this U-boat raid on the New York coast will waken things up a bit more over there. I'm so glad I'm over here and am a still more ardent admirer of the little destroyers.

We have met so many navy officers in charge of destroyers and they seem such lonesome boys over here that Miss Ward and I have been trying to be as nice to them as I would want nurses to be to Ray if he were over here.

Sh and I had dinner with one last night and they were so nice to us and it was really some dinner for us after so much English fare. Real American cooked beefsteak mighty good, French fried potatoes, creamed cauliflower and all the strawberry ice cream we could eat, also the same of cake. We get no cake or ice cream over here and no fried food at all so it was a wonderful dinner topped off with the first real coffee I've had since leaving New York.

Then we visited another destroyer which had been a bit disabled and on board had some more ice cream and some even better coffee. Don't think we are not getting enough food for we are but it is so different and we are not just accustomed to it yet.

I expect it will be an age before I get any mail. I'm mighty anxious to hear from home; you see it is a month now since I've heard. The boys here laugh at me though when I speak of it. They got their Christmas mail at Easter.

Everything is fine at home and I suppose Louise will be there when you receive this. Keep on writing often, they will be just as good when they get here. Lots of love from Jean.

"Scrubby" Is Located. A card received from our old side-wheeler, Fred A. Haynes, at Camp Custer, says that he wants his Banner-News sent to the following address: Pte. Fred A. Haynes, 30th Co., 8th Bn., 160th Depot Brig., Barracks No. 933, Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan. The reason we give this address is because "Scrubby" has a lot of friends here who want to know it so they can write.

1918 CHAUTAUQUA PROMISES MUCH FOR ATTENDANTS

SPLENDID ARRAY OF TALENT BOOKED FOR THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM HERE.

C. Jay Smith advance man for the famous Redpath Chautauqua, was in the city Monday putting out the first of the advertising which the big event is to get this year in order to acquaint the public at large with the real saving worth of the big seven day attraction which is billed to be in this city commencing Tuesday, August 13, and winding up on Tuesday, August 20, with no program on Sunday, August 18.

Mr. Smith reports the attendance at Chautauquas which the Redpath people are putting out as even far greater this year than in previous years and this fact is perhaps because the program offered the public this year is one of real worth to the people, especially at this time, when powerful lectures delivering messages of an inspirational or an educational value, mean so much to the welfare of the people. Some of these people who will appear before Belding audiences at the Chautauqua are Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, one of the world's foremost preachers; Lou J. Beauchamp, in a combination of fun and facts; Frank Mulholland, just returned from France, Sir John Foster Fraser, England's most famous newspaper special correspondent, Capt. George Campbell, "A Soldier of the Sky", who has a record of personally bringing down 18 German aeroplanes in his two years of flying; Christine Frederic, on "Economy" in the Home; Chancellor Geo. H. Bradford on "Rebuilding the World", and others.

As entertainment features, the Chautauqua carries Dunbar's Revue, featuring the Grand Parade of the Allies, The Chicago Light Opera Co., in "The Chocolate Soldier", Clarissa Harold, One Fred Sweet and many others of equal value in the entertainment line.

The local committee report that more than 500 tickets have already been pledged and the sale of the rest of the necessary tickets is going on daily, and it is thought from present indications that the sale of tickets will be heavier this year than ever before. A complete program will be carried in next week's issue of the Banner-News. Watch for it and preserve it. It will form something for a contemplative study of the many good things which our 1918 Chautauqua has in store for you.

"SAVE HONEY" IS TIP TO STATE BEEKEEPERS

East Lansing, July 22.—Notwithstanding reassuring advices from the federal food administration informing the public that sugar will be sufficient for all domestic needs this coming winter, B. F. Kindig, of M. A. C., state inspector of apiaries, is admonishing Michigan beekeepers to "play safe." "Save enough honey this fall to feed your bees through the winter if necessary," he is telling them.

"For the present we have not been informed whether or not we will be permitted to use sugar henceforth to feed our bees," Mr. Kindig declares. "Careful beekeepers, however, will avoid taking a chance. The only safe thing to do is to prepare to save enough honey to feed your bees during the winter if the supply of sugar should be cut off. The man who neglects this precaution may before spring find himself with numerous starving colonies on his hands."

Red Cross Notes. A fine spirit of patriotism was shown by our girls on Thursday night last when they realized the sum of \$33.00 from the collection which they took up. The people who gave also showed a patriotic spirit.

The Banner-News hurriedly got out a special edition, giving all money received from sales to the local Red Cross, \$16.84 being turned in to the treasury from this special edition, which together with the \$33 from the girls makes practically \$50 which the local Red Cross received through the patriotic demonstration of Thursday night. The Red Cross officers wish to extend their hearty thanks to all who helped in this work.

All those who are knitting sweaters will please hand them in by Aug. 10 as we have to ship them at that time. We have no surgical dressing quota for July.

Will Vote to Call Minister. Members of the Congregational church and society will meet on Friday evening, July 26, at the church to consider the calling of Rev. Edward Humphrey to the pastorate. It is hoped a large representation will be present.

To The Voters of Ionia County. I wish to announce that I am a candidate for reelection to the office of county clerk.

The work of this office for the past year and more, on account of the enormous duties connected with the draft law, has been vastly larger than any clerk has ever been called upon to perform in the history of this county.

I have performed the duties of county clerk to the best of my ability, if it has met with your approval I would solicit your vote at the August primary and the November election.

On account of the large amount of work it will be impossible for me to make any campaign other than this announcement. Sincerely yours, George W. Moulton.

We Have With Us Tonight. For county treasurer—George H. Engemann, of Belding—From an Ionia Daily. Well, why not?